

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HJR 16**

January 29, 2015

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Recommends that all school administrators, teachers, parents, and students be educated about the potential health impact of heavy backpacks and take proactive measures to avoid injury. Encourages local education agencies (LEAs) to use chiropractors to conduct mandatory scoliosis examinations. Encourages LEAs to work with Parent-Teacher Organizations or Associations to reduce the need for students to carry heavy backpacks to and from school. Encourages LEAs to consider various methods of reducing the amount of weight in students' backpacks and to educate students on the proper use of their backpacks.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase Local Expenditures – Not Significant/Permissive**

Assumptions:

- LEAs are not required to perform any of the actions within the resolution.
- Currently 48 LEAs and state special schools screen for scoliosis, primarily in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
- LEAs and state special schools do not pay to have these screenings performed by partnering with providers who volunteer their time.
- Any additional LEAs who choose to screen for scoliosis will partner with providers who will donate their time. Any permissive increase in local expenditures is estimated to be not significant.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jeffrey L. Spalding".

Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

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